IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, line 4, as follows:

--~~Technical Field~~ BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, line 14, as follows:

--~~Disclosure of the Invention~~ BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Please insert the following new paragraphs on page 17, between lines 10-11:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing a system configuration according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

Figs. 2a-2c show imaginary views (No. 1) of request management performed by a distribution request management apparatus 22 centering on a request processing means 22A.

Figs. 3a and 3b show imaginary views (No. 2) of the request management performed by the distribution request management apparatus 22 centering on the request processing means 22A.

Fig. 4 illustrates a chart showing a process of the request processing means 22A when the request processing means 22A concludes that a distribution request is made for contents for which the reserved number of requests or the like has been set.

Fig. 5 illustrates a chart showing a flow of signals when set conditions are satisfied.

Figs. 6a and 6b illustrate views showing a process for holding the reserved number of requests set for specific contents.

Fig. 7 illustrates an imaginary view of a process for releasing reserved requests.

Figs. 8a and 8b illustrate imaginary views of a process for reflecting prevention of data signal distribution or termination of the prevention.

Fig. 9 illustrates an imaginary view of a bandwidth limiting process of the request processing means 22A according to a second embodiment of the present invention.--.

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, line 11, as follows:

--~~Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention~~ <u>DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS</u>--.

Please delete paragraph [0065].